



NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD

# NEWS RELEASE

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NEBRASKA AIR NATIONAL GUARD  
TO FLY OVER 66 NEBRASKA CEMETERIES  
DURING ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY SALUTE

RELEASED BY  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LINCOLN, Neb. – The Nebraska Air National Guard's 155th Air Refueling Wing will conduct a Memorial Day flyover salute above 66 Nebraska cemeteries, May 31.

According to Col. Rick Evans, commander of the Lincoln-based 155th ARW, flight crew and maintenance specialists have volunteered to participate in this year's annual Memorial Day salutes. This year's effort will consist of a single Nebraska Air National Guard KC-135R Stratotanker that will cover approximately 600 miles in an area bounded by Peru in the southeast, Hastings in the southwest, Ord in the northwest to Blair in the northeast.

Among the larger events included on the list are cemeteries in Lincoln, Omaha, Fremont, Grand Island and Hastings.

Evans said the effort is a fitting tribute to Nebraska's fallen heroes who now rest honorably and peacefully in Nebraska's community cemeteries. He added that most of the flyovers are being held in conjunction with local tributes being conducted on the ground.

"It is truly special and moving to see an entire town turn out at the cemetery to honor their local heroes," said Evans, who has been planning and flying the tributes for over two decades. He said that the on-going conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq have heightened the state's attention on the sacrifices made by Nebraska's service members.

"It's totally appropriate to remember and honor all of our citizens who fought bravely and died for their country," Evans said. "It's equally important to note that freedom is something that generations of Americans have fought and died for," he added. "That's what we fly on Memorial Day for, to honor, in a small and solemn way, the sacrifices of our military members whose service to state and nation has preserved and defended freedom for us all."

A complete list of the planned Nebraska Air National Guard flyover schedule is available at [www.neguard.com](http://www.neguard.com).

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Note: A list of flyover communities is attached to this news release. Communities are listed in alphabetical order with the time they will be flown over by the Nebraska Air National Guard KC-135R Stratotanker.